

XM Radio offers a valid alternative to traditional radio programming. Their business model is geared toward the listener's (subscribers) tastes and desires, rather than advertiser's. Personally, I find it insulting that the NAB is resisting XM's efforts to offer traffic and weather - as if that service is the only aspect of traditional programming that allows regular radio to make a profit.

The NAB is acting, in my opinion, in a protectionist mode, to preserve their homogenized and fragile programming efforts. I would dare say that their use of nationally syndicated shows, and 'voice overs' for many popular 'local' shows is hypocritical at best.

If the NAB thinks that offering this kind of local content to satellite subscribers is taking away local listeners, they should promote radio that offers local content to compete with satellite radio. Certainly they can convince advertisers that this is what listeners want - after all they PAY for it via satellite.

I respectfully urge you to reject the NAB's petition 04-160, and to allow satellite radio to offer the kind of programming and services that listeners desire.

Thank You